

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A sealing arrangement consisting essentially of a sealing ring having a generally triangular or trapezoidal cross-section and two components moving relative to each other, said components having a first gap width therebetween, including a radially internal or external sealing surface that can be brought into contact with at least one of said components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to one side of said the sealing surface, said the sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by said the fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface for positioning against a supporting flank of the component accommodating the sealing ring,

wherein one of said the two components displays a groove without an undercut to receive said the sealing ring, where said the groove displays said a supporting flank opposite said the supporting surface of said the sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite said the pressurizing surface of said the sealing ring, where said the sealing surface of said the sealing ring projects from said groove the receiving component in the radial direction, and wherein said sealing ring has a central longitudinal axis;

wherein a second gap width is provided, at least between said the pressurizing surface of the sealing ring and said the pressure-side flank, into which said the fluid medium to be provided on the pressure side of said the sealing ring can flow, pressing said the sealing ring in sealing fashion against said the supporting flank of said the groove and against one of said two components, and, by application of pressure by said the fluid medium, said the supporting surface of said the sealing ring, minus the area of said supporting surface corresponding to said first gap width, can be brought into flat and full area contact with said the supporting flank of said the groove, minus the area of said supporting flank corresponding to said second gap width, at least on the side facing the sealing surface

wherein ~~said~~ the supporting surface of ~~said~~ the sealing ring as well as ~~said~~ the supporting flank of ~~said~~ the groove have an inclination angle of 30° to 60° towards said sealing surface,

wherein ~~said~~ the supporting surface is ~~completely~~ designed as a lateral surface of a truncated cone, resulting in flat contact with ~~said~~ the supporting flank of ~~said~~ the groove,

wherein ~~said~~ the second gap extends over the entire lateral extension of ~~said~~ the sealing ring,

wherein ~~said~~ the sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area,

wherein said sealing ring is capable of radial compression towards said radially internal sealing surface, or of expansion towards said radially external sealing surface,

wherein ~~said~~ the ~~entire~~ sealing surface is in sealing contact with one of said two components to form a seal when ~~said~~ the sealing ring is pressurized, ~~said~~ the sealing arrangement characterized in that ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface or ~~said~~ the supporting surface, or ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface and ~~said~~ the supporting surface, each form a lateral surface and ~~said~~ the lateral surfaces each extend at least up to the area of ~~said~~ the sealing ring projecting from ~~said~~ the groove and into said first gap between said components.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that the area of ~~said~~ the ~~pressurizing surface or said~~ the supporting surface, or of ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface and ~~said~~ the supporting surface, with the form of a truncated cone follows on laterally, at least almost directly, from ~~said~~ the sealing surface.

5. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that a surface is located between ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface and ~~said~~ the supporting surface,

opposite to said the sealing surface, which is a lateral surface of a truncated cone, or a surface of a cylinder, or a concavely arched surface forming a transitional area.

6. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that the radial thickness of said the sealing ring is less than/equal to the extension of said the sealing surface in the axial direction of said the sealing ring.

7. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said the pressurizing surface or said the supporting surface, or said the pressurizing surface and said the supporting surface, is or are profiled.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said the weaker area is designed as a complete division of said the sealing ring, forming two opposite sealing ring ends, in that at least one, integrally molded area extending in the circumferential direction of said the sealing ring is provided on each of said the sealing ring ends, and in that the areas associated with different sealing ring ends are located one behind the other in said the axial direction of said the sealing ring, forming a labyrinth seal, and are in contact with each other, at least in operating condition of said the sealing ring.

10. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said the sealing ring consists of a plastic with an elongation at break at room temperature of $\leq 50\%$.

11. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said the sealing surface is partly or entirely arranged concentrically to said the central longitudinal axis of said the sealing ring, and is designed as the surface of a cylinder that can be a radially external or internal boundary surface of said the ring.

12-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~said the~~ second gap extends at least partially over the side of ~~said the~~ sealing ring opposite ~~said the~~ sealing surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring, which forms a transitional area between ~~said the~~ supporting surface and ~~said the~~ pressurizing surface.

15. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~said the~~ sealing ring projects from ~~said the~~ groove in ~~said the~~ component in the radial direction by less than one-third of its radial thickness.

16. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~said the~~ supporting flank of ~~said the~~ groove can be brought into full contact with ~~said the~~ supporting surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring by pressurizing ~~said the~~ fluid medium.

17. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~said the~~ second gap displays an essentially constant gap width over its radial extension.

18. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~said the~~ groove is of rounded design in the area of the groove base, or in at least one transitional area to an adjacent groove flank.

19. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that a first of said two components is provided, which displays ~~said the~~ sealing ring accommodated in a circumferential groove, and in that a second of said two components is provided, which is capable of motion relative to ~~said the~~ first of said two components and with which ~~said the~~ sealing surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring can be brought into contact in sealing fashion during motion of ~~said the~~ two components relative to each other, and in that ~~said the~~

sealing ring is located in said ~~the~~ groove without pretension in relation to the component to be sealed.

20. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said ~~the~~ component accommodating said ~~the~~ sealing ring in said ~~the~~ groove is a shaft, and in that a shaft guide is provided, with which said ~~the~~ sealing surface of said ~~the~~ sealing ring can be brought into contact in sealing fashion by application of the pressure of said ~~the~~ fluid medium during rotary motion of said ~~the~~ shaft and said ~~the~~ shaft guide relative to each other, in that said ~~the~~ shaft guide is made of a light metal, and in that said ~~the~~ supporting surface of said ~~the~~ sealing ring is inclined to said ~~the~~ longitudinal axis of said ~~the~~ sealing ring such that, owing to the pressure force of said ~~the~~ fluid medium on said ~~the~~ sealing ring, said ~~the~~ sealing ring is located in non-rotating fashion relative to said ~~the~~ shaft guide.

21. (Currently Amended) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said ~~the~~ component accommodating said ~~the~~ sealing ring is a shaft guide, and in that a shaft capable of rotation relative to it is provided, with which said ~~the~~ sealing surface of said ~~the~~ sealing ring can be brought into contact in sealing fashion.

22. (Previously Presented) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said two components comprise a shaft and a shaft guide.

23. (Previously Presented) The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that said two components comprise a cylinder and a piston.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) A sealing arrangement comprising a sealing ring having a generally triangular or trapezoidal cross-section and two components moving relative to each other, said components having a first gap width therebetween, including a radially internal or external

sealing surface that can be brought into contact with one of ~~said the~~ components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to ~~one the~~ side of ~~said the~~ sealing surface, ~~said the~~ sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by ~~said the~~ fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface ~~to the side of the sealing surface~~ for positioning against a groove flank of one of ~~the other of the two~~ components accommodating ~~said the~~ sealing ring, ~~and a transitional area connecting the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface opposite to the sealing surface,~~ wherein ~~said the~~ pressurizing surface and ~~said the~~ supporting surface are inclined relative to ~~said the~~ sealing surface and ~~enclosed~~ enclose an angle of about 30° to 60° towards it— ~~said~~ sealing surface,

wherein ~~said the~~ supporting surface is ~~completely~~ designed as a lateral surface of a truncated cone, resulting in flat area contact with ~~said the~~ supporting flank of ~~said the~~ groove, ~~wherein the second gap width extends over the entire lateral extension of the sealing ring,~~ wherein the sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area, to be capable of radial compression towards a radially internal sealing surface, or of expansion toward a radially external sealing surface,

wherein one of ~~said the~~ two components displays a groove without undercut to accommodate ~~said the~~ sealing ring, where ~~said the~~ groove displays a supporting flank opposite ~~said the~~ supporting surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite ~~said the~~ pressurizing surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring, where ~~said the~~ sealing surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring projects from ~~said groove the receiving component~~ in the radial direction,

wherein a second gap width is provided, at least between ~~said the~~ pressurizing surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring and ~~said the~~ pressure-side flank, into which ~~said the~~ fluid medium to be provided on the pressure side of ~~said the~~ sealing ring can flow, pressing ~~said the~~ sealing ring in sealing fashion against ~~said the~~ supporting flank of ~~said the~~ groove and against a component to be sealed that corresponds to a first component, and, by application of pressure by ~~said the~~ fluid medium, ~~said the~~ supporting surface of ~~said the~~ sealing ring, minus the area of the supporting surface corresponding to said first gap width, can be brought into flat ~~and full-area~~ contact with ~~said the~~ supporting flank of ~~said the~~ groove, minus the area of the supporting flank corresponding

to said second gap width, at least on the side facing said the sealing surface, and wherein said second gap width extends over the entire lateral extension of said sealing ring,

said the sealing arrangement is further characterized in that said the pressurizing surface or said the supporting surface, or said the pressurizing surface and said the supporting surface, each form a lateral surface and said the lateral surfaces each extend at least up to the area of said the sealing ring projecting from said the groove and into said first gap between said components[.]

wherein said the second gap width extends over the entire lateral extension of the sealing ring; and

wherein said sealing surface being in sealing contact with one of said two components provides a sealing area and wherein said sealing area is provided when said supporting surface of said sealing ring is in flat area contact with said supporting flank of said groove.

26.(Currently Amended) A sealing arrangement comprising a sealing ring having a generally triangular or trapezoidal cross-section and two components moving relative to each other, said components having a first gap width therebetween, including a radially internal or external sealing surface that can be brought into contact with one of said the components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to the one side of said the sealing surface, said the sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by said the fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface to the side of the sealing surface for positioning against a groove flank of a component one of said two components accommodating said the sealing ring, and a transitional area connecting the pressurized surface and the supporting surface opposite to the sealing surface,

wherein said the pressurizing surface and said the supporting surface are inclined relative to said the sealing surface and enclose an angle of less than 90° towards it said sealingsurface.

wherein ~~said~~ the sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area to be capable of radial compression towards ~~said-a~~ radially external sealing surface,

wherein one of ~~said~~ the two components displays a groove without undercut to accommodate ~~said~~ the sealing ring, where ~~said~~ the groove displays a supporting flank opposite ~~said~~ the supporting surface of ~~said~~ the sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface of ~~said~~ the sealing ring, where ~~said~~ the sealing surface of ~~said~~ the sealing ring projects from the ~~said groove receiving component~~ in the radial direction,

wherein a second gap width is provided at least between ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface of ~~said~~ the sealing ring and ~~said~~ the pressure-side flank, into which ~~said~~ the fluid medium to be provided on ~~said~~ the pressure side of ~~said~~ the sealing ring can flow, pressing ~~said~~ the sealing ring in sealing fashion against ~~said~~ the supporting flank of ~~said~~ the groove and against one of ~~said~~ the two components to be sealed that corresponds to the first component, and, by application of pressure by ~~said~~ the fluid medium, ~~said~~ the supporting surface of ~~said~~ the sealing ring, minus the area of the supporting surface corresponding to said first gap width, can be brought into flat ~~and full~~-area contact with ~~said~~ the supporting flank of ~~said~~ the groove, minus the area of the supporting flank corresponding to said second gap width, at least on the side facing ~~said~~ the sealing surface,

wherein ~~said~~ the groove is of concave rounded design in the central area of the groove base and in both transitional areas to both adjacent groove flanks, with a continuous transition of the concave groove base to ~~said~~ the groove flanks, and

wherein ~~said~~ the transitional area of ~~said~~ the sealing ring is arranged at ~~said~~ the base of ~~said~~ the groove and ~~said~~ the sealing arrangement is further characterized in that ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface or ~~said~~ the supporting surface, or ~~said~~ the pressurizing surface and ~~said~~ the supporting surface, each form a lateral surface and ~~said~~ the lateral surfaces each extend at least up to an the area of ~~said~~ the sealing ring projecting from ~~said~~ the groove and into said first gap between said components

wherein ~~said~~ the supporting surface of ~~said~~ the sealing ring as well as ~~said~~ the supporting flank of ~~said~~ the groove have an inclination angle of 30° to 60° towards said sealing surface,

wherein said the supporting surface is ~~completely~~ designed as a lateral surface of a truncated cone, resulting in flat area contact with said ~~the~~ supporting flank of said the groove, and

wherein ~~the~~ said second gap width extends over the entire lateral extension of said the sealing ring, and

wherein said sealing surface being in sealing contact with one of said two components provides a sealing area and wherein said sealing area is provided when said supporting surface of said sealing ring is in flat area contact with said supporting flank of said groove.

27. (Currently Amended) A sealing arrangement comprising a sealing ring having a generally triangular or trapezoidal cross-section and two components moving relative to each other, said components having a first gap width therebetween, including a radially internal or external sealing surface that can be brought into contact with one of said the components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to the one side of said the sealing surface, said the sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by said the fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface ~~to the side of the sealing surface~~ for positioning against a groove flank of one ~~the other~~ of said two the components accommodating said the sealing ring, ~~and a transitional area connecting the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface opposite to the sealing surface,~~ wherein said the pressurizing surface and said the supporting surface are inclined relative to said the sealing surface and ~~enclosed~~ enclose an angle of about 30° to 60° towards it said sealing surface.

wherein said the supporting surface is ~~completely~~ designed as a lateral surface of a truncated cone, resulting in flat area contact with said ~~the~~ supporting flank of said the groove,

wherein the second gap width extends over the entire lateral extension of the sealing ring,

wherein said the sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area, to be capable of radial compression towards said a radially internal sealing surface, or of expansion toward said a radially external sealing surface,

wherein one of said the two components displays a groove without undercut to accommodate said the sealing ring, where said the groove displays a supporting flank opposite said the supporting surface of said the sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite said the pressurizing surface of said the sealing ring, where said the sealing surface of said the sealing ring projects from said groove the receiving component in the radial direction,

wherein a second gap width is provided, at least between said the pressurizing surface of said the sealing ring and said the pressure-side flank, into which said the fluid medium to be provided on said the pressure side of said the sealing ring can flow, pressing said the sealing ring in sealing fashion against said the supporting flank of said the groove and against a component to be sealed that corresponds to a first component, and, by application of pressure by said the fluid medium, said the supporting surface of said the sealing ring, minus the area of said supporting surface corresponding to said first gap width, can be brought into flat and full-area contact with said the supporting flank of said the groove, minus the area of said supporting flank of said second gap width, at least on the side facing said the sealing surface, and

said the sealing arrangement is further characterized in that said the pressurizing surface or said the supporting surface, or said the pressurizing surface and said the supporting surface, each form a lateral surface and said the lateral surfaces each extend at least up to the area of said the sealing ring projecting from said the groove and into said first gap width between said components;

wherein said the sealing surface of said the sealing ring is the surface with the greatest width referring to the cross-sectional view of said the sealing ring;

wherein said the sealing surface of the sealing ring is in flat and full area contact with the supporting flank of the groove over the entire height and the entire circumference of the sealing ring; and

wherein said the sealing surface of said the sealing ring in the pressurized sealing position of said the sealing ring is in full area contact with the opposite component, and

wherein said sealing surface being in sealing contact with one of said two components provides a sealing area and wherein said sealing area is provided when said supporting surface of said sealing ring is in flat area contact with said supporting flank of said groove.

28. (New) A sealing arrangement consisting essentially of a sealing ring having a generally triangular or trapezoidal cross-section and two components moving relative to each other, said components having a first gap width therebetween, including a radially internal or external sealing surface that can be brought into contact with at least one of said components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to one side of said sealing surface, said sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by said fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface for positioning against a supporting flank of the component accommodating the sealing ring,

wherein one of said two components displays a groove without an undercut to receive said sealing ring, where said groove displays said supporting flank opposite said supporting surface of said sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite said pressurizing surface of said sealing ring, where said sealing surface of said sealing ring projects from said groove in the radial direction, and wherein said sealing ring has a central longitudinal axis;

wherein a second gap width is provided, at least between said pressurizing surface of the sealing ring and said pressure-side flank, into which said fluid medium to be provided on the pressure side of said sealing ring can flow, pressing said sealing ring in sealing fashion against said supporting flank of said groove and against one of said two components, and, by application of pressure by said fluid medium, said supporting surface of said sealing ring, minus the area of said supporting surface corresponding to said first gap width, can be brought into flat area contact with said supporting flank of said groove, minus the area of said supporting flank corresponding to said second gap width,

wherein said supporting surface of said sealing ring as well as said supporting flank of said groove have an inclination angle of 30° to 60° towards said sealing surface,

wherein said the supporting surface is designed as a lateral surface of a truncated cone, resulting in flat contact with said supporting flank of said groove,

wherein said second gap extends over the entire lateral extension of said sealing ring,

wherein said sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area,

wherein said sealing ring is capable of radial compression towards said radially internal sealing surface , or of expansion towards said radially external sealing surface,

wherein said sealing surface is in sealing contact with one of said two components to form a seal when said sealing ring is pressurized, said sealing arrangement characterized in that said pressurizing surface or said supporting surface, or said pressurizing surface and said supporting surface, each form a lateral surface and said lateral surfaces each extend at least up to the area of said sealing ring projecting from said groove and into said first gap between said components, and

wherein said sealing surface being in sealing contact with one of said two components provides a sealing area and wherein said sealing area is provided when said supporting surface of said sealing ring is in flat area contact with said supporting flank of said groove.